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Friday, April 5, 2013

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Connecticut passes tough gun law after massacre



AFP photo shows Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy (4th R) signing the gun-control bill as Connecticut Lieutenant Gov. Nancy Wyman (3rd L), Mark Barden (4th L), Neil Heslin (5th R), Nicole Hockley (2nd R) looked on.

NEW YORK (AFP) - Connecticut's governor signed tough new gun ownership rules into law yesterday, four months after a deranged loner opened fire on an elementary school in the state, killing 20 children and six adults.

Governor Dannel Malloy put his signature to the bill, noting that the state's ability to reach a bipartisan accord on the issue at a time of rancorous debate in Congress was "something quite different in our nation." The measure passed in the state assembly in the early hours of the morning, making Connecticut the third state after New York and Colorado to tighten gun laws in the wake of the December 14 massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

More than 100 makes of rifles -- including the Bushmaster AR-15 used by killer Adam Lanza in the Newtown school -- were added to an existing, but now vastly expanded ban on military-style weapons.

Continued on page 2

Aruba Xtreme Games weekend of final competitions begins today



Aruba's best young windsurfers join international pros.

All week, young island athletes and international professionals have been participating in elimination rounds of the first Aruba Xtreme Games, taking place on the western outskirts of Oranjestad. The beach area adjacent the old Bushiri Resort has been set up to host BMX racing, BMX and skateboard acrobatics along with refreshment booths and a bandstand.

Beginning today, these extreme sports as well as freestyle windsurfing and kitesur-



World Youth Champion Max Lageveen



Extreme Games team with Minister Visser

fing will be conducted through this coming Sunday, with awarding of trophies to the winners on Sunday evening, at 7.00 PM

Organized by the 2DMAX Foundation, the Aruba Xtreme Games has around 300 athletes of all ages, from Aruba and abroad, competing in some of the most demanding and thrilling sports, assuring a great show for spectators. Booths with snacks from sponsors Senor Frog's and refreshments from TEC, including Polar beer, are set up around the beach.

Over the weekend, competitors in the windsurfing events will include Aruba's own Max Lageveen, who is the

World's Youth Freestyle Champion, as well as pro windsurfing champions from Bonaire, Tati Frans and Kiri Thode, and Youp Schmidt from Holland.

Olympians Israel Hernandez and Jose Luis Primera from Venezuela and Andrez Jimenez of Colombia will be competing in the BMX rally. World famous kitesurfers Bas Koole and Christophe Tack from Belgium will be battling it out on the waves and in the air. Surfers report the exceptional winds of this week resulting in ideal conditions for the most daring aerial acrobatics.

Continued on page 4



Connecticut passes tough gun law after massacre

Continued from page 1

In addition, ammunition clips holding more than 10 rounds must now be registered, while new sales of the large clips are banned.

The law, which raises the minimum age for purchasers from 18 to 21, tightened the procedure for background

checks. It also created the first state registry in the United States of people convicted of gun-related crimes.

President Barack Obama, who campaigned in Colorado on Wednesday for a national tightening of gun laws, was set to drive home his message with a visit to Connecticut on Monday.

Malloy called the passing of the law a "very emotional day" and chastised politicians in Congress, where attempts to enact a national ban on assault rifles have failed and even Obama's push for extra background checks is meeting serious resistance.

Malloy said polls showed that while politicians are divided over background checks, "the country is not divided itself."

"There is no excuse for representatives or senators who don't come to the assistance of those whom they're elected to represent.," he said.

"We can never undo the senseless tragedy that took place on December 14," Malloy said, "but we can take action here in Connecticut."

The new Connecticut law will be in effect by August 1, once law enforcement bodies have had time to organize, Malloy said.

The shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School were initially seen by many as a watershed that could swing public opinion behind national curbs on gun ownership.

However, support has wilted in Congress as the gun ownership lobby ramped up pressure. The issue is especially delicate for members of Congress heading into re-election races next year in states with strong gun cultures.

Seeking to regain momentum, Obama traveled to Colorado, a western state with a

hunting and frontier tradition, where a mass shooting in a cinema there killed 12 people last year.

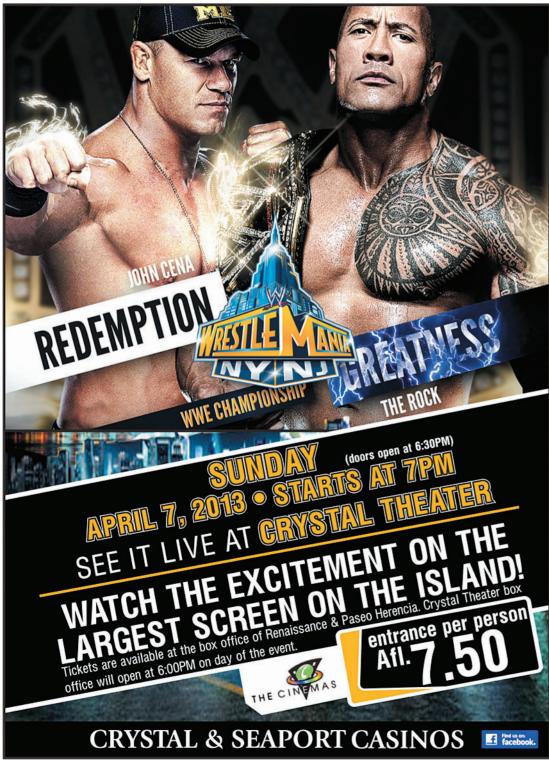
"I don't believe that weapons designed for theaters of war have any place in movie theaters," Obama said, days after expressing frustration that political momentum was fading

But despite the steady drip of massacres by gunmen in public places, Newtown being just the latest, many Americans remain staunch backers of keeping powerful firearms for sport or self-defense.

Passions over gun ownership -- a right enshrined in the Second Amendment of the US Constitution -- were evident as an unruly crowd opposed to Connecticut's law burst into the state Capitol in Hartford on Wednesday, shouting: "Just say no!"

The focus of anti-gun campaigns has been on the more visible issue of military style rifles. However, nearly all murders in the United States are carried out with pistols.

In Connecticut, state Senator Donald Williams said: "No one is claiming that this bill will prevent all mass killings. But to say that we should do nothing? That is wrong."







Figures from March 22 to March 31, 2013:

Easter 2013 showed an increase in commercial aircraft movements





ORANJESTAD -- Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) together with the other authorities at the airport prepared ahead of time for the expected high traffic during this Easter season and can now look back on a successful Easter season 2013:

While less charter flights

from Venezuela were expected than the previous year, the amount of commercial flights however showed an increase compared to 2012: From 1131 aircraft movements in 2012 to 1179 movements in 2013.

AAA was also focusing on the General Aviation flights, as construction works are currently being performed and in the past years the demand for the private airplanes facility showed a substantial increase. However, this Easter season the amount of private movements has decreased compared to last year, but is still higher than 2011: From 1068 aircraft movements in 2012 to 846 in 2013.

"The investments made at the south side ensured that the apron didn't have to be closed off for air traffic at any time during the busy season, as was the case in the last years. Besides this extra parking capacity, the extra manpower, extra buffer zone at the south side and preparation ahead of time proved to be successful for this busy season and we're very happy that even though it was hectic, our passengers were handled efficiently, while still receiving a warm treatment at the airport, "said AAA's CEO Mr. Peter Steinmetz.

Newly founded Dyslexia Foundation gets amazing response from parents



The president and boardmembers of the newly founded 'Fundacion pro Persona cu Dislexia' were stunned with the great turn-out of parents fo' their first 'inaugural' meeting, which was held at the Centro di BarioPlaya Pabao on March 27. Ramon Todd Dandere, Vanessa Tromp and Esmeralda Ophelia Schotman had hopefully copied papers with information about dyslexia for 30 persons, but more than 50 interested parents, grandparents and children showed up. Studies show that dyslexia is much wider-spread than previously thought: one in ten children struggle with it. Aruba is no different than elsewhere in the world.

Dyslexia has many characteristics, but one common factor: the person feels distraught with his or her inability to read or spell words. The person feels inadequate and stupid,

while there is nothing wrong with his or her intelligence. The sooner the disease is discovered, the better, as there is much to be done about it at an early age. Dyslexia detection often comes late when the child speaks another mother language than the language taught in school: the problem is not recognized as such. Therefore there should be more emphasis on early detection in elementary schools and there also should be more support available so that children with dyslexia receive additional and specific tuition which targets the problems.

For parents who have missed the opportunity to attend the dyslexia foundation's first meeting, please send a mail to fundationepropersonacudislexia@gmail.com so that you will be included in the foundation's next meetings and/or projects.



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Aruba Xtreme Games . . .

Continued from page 1



Young Aruban bikers are ready to rumble



Come Watch Skateboard acrobatics

The beach will also have a "Kid's Corner" set up for very young children, making it a fun day for all the family to enjoy participating or watching these "Xtreme" sporting events. The days will be filled with exciting activities on the beach and music from popular DJ's: DJ Yeimy, DJ Diablo, DJ Big Rig, Masbango, Nutzbeatz. Visiting DJ's from Holland and Curacao are DJ Funk D and DJ NRG

The Aruba Xtreme Event also includes competitions with cash prizes for none athletes. There is a one-minute and five-minute video contest being judge by island video artists Ryan Oduber and a photo contest with Anwar Habibe, the event's official photographer, deciding the winners in the "Xtreme Sports" and "Activities" cat-

egories. Photos and oneminute videos must be submitted via their website by end of the day on Saturday, April 4. The winners will be announced on Sunday evening. Videos must combine all the sports disciplines. The five-minute videos will be posted to the Facebook page; after one month, the winner, decided by technical quality and the number of "likes" will win 4,000 Arubian florins. Photo contest winners will receive 1,000 and 500 Aruban florin prizes.

A full schedule of events and entry forms can be found on their website: http://www.aruba-xtreme.com/ For up to the minute results and a photo gallery visit their Facebook page.

Rosalie Klein

AGS receives Aruba Airport's 2012 Safety and Employee of the Year awards

Presented by Aruba Airport Authority N.V.



ORANJESTAD-- After a considerable investment by its new owners, both young Aruba-born entrepreneurs, Aruba Ground Handling Services (AGS) has worked hard and won trust and respect in the industry. With dedication they began investing in equipment and the staff. And, merely one year later, AGS received recognition for all this hard work from Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA N.V.) through two awards: the Safety Award and Employee of the Year 2012 award, which were presented to AGS during Airside Safety Week.

AGS Director Oslin Toppenberg expressed that this achievement is due to the team's hard work and the efforts by Employee of the Year winner Gabriel Dania, who with his leadership skills has guided the group, as well as the motivation from management and the AGS employees in general. "We are very satisfied for two reasons. One, AGS is a new company. Two, that Aserca has won the "Airline of the Year" award. Last year, Aserca was handled completed by AGS and thus we had a participation in this, which makes us very happy," he explained.

He added that the airport has its rules and while AGS does the groundhandling for more or less seven companies



that each have their own rules, AGS has to assure that they comply to the airport's as well as the airlines' rules with great dedication to detail. All companies for which AGS does the groundhandling - whether having arrived late or on time - not once in 2012 have registered a delay that can be attributed to AGS. "All our companies are above 99.8% of attention. Nor have we registered any damage to aircraft, damage to personnel, nor equipment breakage and we have never been caused any accidents," he assured.

This marks a record for a young company, of just one year, with new management and a team that is highly motivated. This is certainly truly

remarkable.

AAA N.V. Spokesperson Hendrick Croes announced that this week the airport is hosting the eight annual Airside Safety Week. The "airside" is the area where the aircraft land; here the employees deal with the aircraft without any contact with the passengers.

During this week, different courses and seminars with new information are offered, while existing information is reviewed. On Monday, AAA N.V. made use of the opportunity to present the recognition for Employee of the Year 2012, as well as Company of the Year 2012. The criteria for these recognitions are determined by the "air safety council".

The airport announced Gabriel Dania of AGS as the winner of the Employee of the Year award and Aserca Airlines as recipient of the Company of the Year award, which always attend together to all activities pertaining to the airside and the airport in general.

Oslin Toppenberg pointed out that Aserca Airlines representatives expressed that the airline is very happy to be part of the airport family, through which AGS identifies itself and receives international recognition in the aviation world.



Miss Aruba Larisa Leeuwe helps children in Haiti, Cuba and the Dominican Republic







During Larisa's flea-market fundraising event on March 24th, 2013 to raise awareness on domestic violence and stop abuse against women and children she was introduced to Diana and Will from the Netherlands. Diana and Will live 6 months in the Netherlands and the other 6 months they travel from island to island in the Caribbean on their sailboat "Cornelis". In the past they have donated clothing and other articles to an orphanage for mentally challenged children in Haiti.

Next year they will be traveling to Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic, where they will be visiting and helping different orphanages. Larisa offered to donate the remaining clothing and articles from the fleamarket to them, so they can bring these to help children in need. They gladly accepted her offer and a few days later they boarded 5 boxes of clothing and articles on their sailboat.

Larisa seizes every great opportunity to help underprivileged kids around the world. She believes that helping children should not be limited to her native island of Aruba, but wherever and whenever she can.



The Mill Resort & Suites welcomes "Grupo Magdalena"



Last week The Mill Resort & Suites give 'Grupo Magdalena,' a social group of 60+ a warm welcome to the resort. The group was given a tour around the property and later had a snack and refreshments. Spokesperson for 'Grupo Magdalena' shared that the members were very impressed after touring the beautiful property at The Mill Resort. The Mill will also be receiving groups from Curacao and Bonaire, 'Grandinan Yen Ambiente' and 'Grupo Gracioso Uni' respectively, on a visit trip during the month Septeber and October. Photo depicts the 'Grupo Magdalena' at The Mill.



International news

Pressure builds on Hollande over tax fraud scandal

PARIS (AFP) - French President Francois Hollande faced rising pressure yesterday over a disgraced ex-minister's secret foreign bank account, as it emerged that his one-time campaign treasurer was a partner in companies registered in the Cayman Islands.

With Hollande away in Morocco on a state visit, calls grew at home for top officials in his embattled Socialist government to resign over the scandal that saw former budget minister Jerome Cahuzac charged in a tax fraud probe.

Cahuzac -- the minister responsible for cracking down on tax evasion until he resigned two weeks ago -- was charged on Tuesday with "laundering the proceeds of tax fraud" after he admitted to having an undeclared foreign bank account containing some 600,000 euros (\$770,000). He had for weeks repeatedly denied -- to the president, in parliament and in media interviews -- ever having had a foreign account.

Critics have accused Hollande and his government of either trying to cover up the scandal or of mismanagement for having believed Cahuzac's denials.

The head of the main opposition right-wing UMP party, Jean-Francois Cope, said the government no longer had the credibility to rule.

'The only solution possible,

the only one, is a major government reshuffle, including the prime minister," Cope said.

French newspapers said Hollande was facing his biggest political crisis since taking office, with popular daily Le Parisien saying the situation had become "untenable" for the government.

Adding to Hollande's woes, Le Monde newspaper reported that his campaign treasurer for last year's presidential vote, 59-year-old businessman Jean-Jacques Augier, had joint ownership of two firms registered in the Cayman Islands, a wellknown tax haven.

Augier confirmed the existence of the firms and said they had been set up to form partnerships with foreign entrepre-

"There is nothing illegal." Augier told Le Monde, which carried out the probe with the Washington-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and other international media.

In a statement, Augier's Eurane holding company said the Caymans-based firms had in no way been used to avoid paying taxes.

"These two shareholdings resulted in no tax advantage either in France or elsewhere," the statement said, adding that Augier had "no assets, accounts or personal equity outside of French territory.'

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AFP photo shows people affected by a powerful storm that slammed La Plata earlier this week, queuing to get food and clothes in this Argentine city located 63 km south of Buenos Aires, on April 4, 2013. Rescuers yesterday searched for some 20 people still missing in La Plata after 57 were killed in Argentina in a violent storm and heavy flooding. Most of the victims were found Wednesday after a second



day of record rainfall in Buenos Aires and nearby La Plata, where flooding submerged cars and sent people scrambling to rooftops for safety.

N. Korea moves missile after warning of nuclear strike

SEOUL (AFP) - North Korea has moved a medium-range missile to its east coast, South Korea said yesterday as the United States strengthened its Pacific missile defences amid intensifying threats from Pyongyang.

Seoul's defence minister Kim Kwan-Jin said the missile could reach a "considerable distance" but not the US main-

"It could be aimed at testfiring or military drills," he told lawmakers.

North Korea, incensed at fresh UN sanctions and South Korea-US military drills, has issued a series of apocalyptic threats of nuclear war in recent weeks.

Early yesterday its military said it had received final approval for military action against the United States, possibly involving nuclear wea-

"The moment of explosion is approaching fast," the general staff said, responding to what it called the provocative US use of nuclear-capable B-52 and B-2 stealth bombers in war games with South Korea.

The US aggression would be "smashed by... cutting-edge smaller, lighter and diversified nuclear strike means," it said in a statement.

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon told North Korea yetserday to rein in its threats, warning that any miscalculation could lead to an extremely grave outcome.

He told a news conference in Madrid that daily security and humanitarian reports from Pyongyang were "really alarming and troubling".

"Nuclear threat is not a game, it is very serious," Ban told reporters.

"I think they have gone too far in their rhetoric and I am concerned that if by any misjudgement, by any miscalculations... this will have very serious implications," he said.

US Defense

Chuck Hagel said Pyongyang's increasingly bellicose threats combined with its military capabilities represented a "real and clear danger" to the United States and its allies South Korea and Japan.

The Pentagon said it would send ground-based THAAD missile-interceptor batteries to protect bases on Guam, a US territory some 3,380 kilometres (2,100 miles) southeast of North Korea and home to 6,000 American military personnel.

'They have nuclear capacity now, they have missile delivery capacity now," Hagel said Wednesday. "We take those threats seriously."



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Bulgaria offers prayer, counselling to stop wave of suicides

SOFIA (AFP) - Bulgaria is hoping to stop protest-driven suicides, including self-immolations, that have swept the country in recent weeks by organising prayers for all faiths and free psychological coun-

selling.

Religious leaders from the Christian Orthodox, Catholic, Armenian and Protestant churches, as well as Muslim and Jewish leaders, agreed Thursday to hold prayers all

over the country this weekend following an initiative by President Rosen Plevneliev.

Earlier in the week, the health ministry ordered public hospitals to offer free psychological counselling to people.

The measures come after weeks of protests over high electricity bills, poverty and corruption that forced the right-wing government to resign but also saw seven people set themselves on fire, apparently pushed to despair by dire living conditions and lack of

future prospects. Five of them died of their injuries, with two severely inhandful more from burning munist rule.

themselves in public.

Aside from the self-immolations, almost 200 people have committed suicide this year, national health centre doctor Vladimir Nakov told Trud newspaper on Thursday.

Bulgaria is 80-percent Christian Orthodox but the Church has been slow to play a role in society after its influence was brutally suppressed jured. Police prevented a by the country's 45-year com-

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One in five US teenage boys diagnosed ADHD: report

WASHINGTON (AFP) Nearly one in five American teenage boys is diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, marking a dramatic rise in the past decade, the New York Times reported.

The condition, for which potent stimulant drugs like Adderal or Ritalin are often prescribed, has been previously estimated to affect three to seven percent of children.

The newspaper compiled the data from raw figures provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, which took a phone survey of 76,000 parents from 2011 to 2012.

The report said that 15 percent of school-age boys in the United States have received an ADHD diagnosis, compared to seven percent among girls.

Among those age 14 to 17, the rate was higher: 19 percent for boys and 10 percent for girls.

An estimated 6.4 million children ages 4 through 17 have received an ADHD diagnosis at some point in their lives, a 16 percent increase since 2007 and a 53 percent rise in the past decade, the newspaper said.

Experts said the figures were surprising and raised concern about the potential for abuse of the medications used to treat ADHD, as well as risks of misuse including psychosis, anxiety and addiction.

James Swanson, a professor of psychiatry at Florida International University and a lead-ADHDresearcher, expressed concern about the findings.

"There's no way that one in five high-school boys has ADHD," he was quoted as saying. "If we start treating children who do not have the disorder with stimulants, a certain percentage are going to have problems that are predictable -- some of them are going to end up with abuse and dependence."

The newspaper also noted that sales of stimulants that treat ADHD have more than doubled in recent years. In 2007, sales amounted to four billion dollars; in 2012 they were to nine billion dollars.



Sci-Tech

Turtle species not extinct: it never existed, study

PARIS (AFP) - A Seychelles freshwater turtle species declared extinct after decades of futile searches, in fact never existed, scientists said.

While Man has the extinction of several turtle and tortoise species on his conscience, DNA evidence has now cleared him of exterminating Pelusios seychellensis, a team from Germany and Austria wrote in the journal PloS One.

Genetic comparisons showed the species to be one and the same as a widespread West African turtle called Pelusios castaneus, of which a handful of individuals may have been brought to the archipelago by humans long ago, and mistaken for endemic.

Even more likely -- dried museum specimens of the now discredited P seychellensis were wrongly labelled as originating in the Seychelles, said the team.

Turtles and tortoises are the vertebrates at the greatest risk of extinction, according to the study authors. Of about 320 species, those endemic to islands had been hardest hit, both by predators and human interference.

P seychellensis was originally described in 1906 as a species endemic to Mahe island

Only three museum specimens from the late 19th century are known today, and live turtles were never found despite intensive searches of Mahe -- prompting the International Union for the Conservation of Nature to declare it extinct in 2003.



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Won:
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Winner: Incognito Amount Played: \$30 Won: \$2.000 Double 10 Times Pay



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US militant in Somalia still waging 'jihad' against US

WASHINGTON (AFP) - American-born Islamic militant Omar Hamami remains committed to waging jihad against US interests, he said in an interview published on Thursday, despite a \$5 million bounty that Washington placed on his head.

Hamami, who has parted ways with fellow Al-Shebab

militants in Somalia, told the Danger Room website that he nevertheless remains committed to armed struggle against the United States.

Nicknamed "the rapping jihadist" for his work enlisting Shebab recruits through his English-language rap songs and videos, Hamami, 28, is a former resident of Alabama who moved to Somalia in 2006.

Also known as Abu Mansoor al-Amriki or "the American," Hamami late last year announced his split from the insurgents, who he says now want to kill him.

Now the most prominent American jihadi left alive, Hamami told Danger Room that he is aware "my life may be in danger" as Washington targets Islamist militants overseas, including those with US citizenship.

Hamami was indicted in 2009 by an Alabama district court for providing support to a terrorist organization, and two years later he was placed on a US Treasury blacklist freezing all his assets in the United States.

In November, his name was posted on the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorists list. He and another militant, Jehad Mostafa, last month were named under the State Department's Rewards for Justice program for their ties to the Al-Qaeda linked Shebab.

PICKLES









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ACROSS

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- 17. Not these

36

19. Bangalore's

country

- 21. "___ a girl!" 22. Between HST
- and JFK 23. Hide
- 27. Guitar neck attachment
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- 8. Egyptian cobra 32. Role for Stallone
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 - 38. Heartfelt
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15

- 43. Company exec (abbr.)
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33

- 49. Wrestler's pad
- 50. Speak imperfectly
- 52. Excursion
- 54. Twosome
- 55. Love god 56. Promise or
- Parkay 57. Tiny taste
- 58. Steal from
- 59. Knob

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 - 10. School group (abbr.)
 - 12. Party with piñatas
 - 18. Young suffix

 - 20. Xmas mo.
 - 23. State
 - 24. Freudian word
 - 25. Artfully reserved
 - 26. "Oz" aunt and others
- 28. Imitate
- 29. Through
- 30. Be in the red
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- 34. Draft status (hyph.)
- 37. Above, poetically
- _ candy 39.
- 41. Masonic doorkeeper
- 42. Nile city
- 44. Hawaiian island 45. Upon
- 47. Singer_
- Guthrie 48. Bound up
- 49. Welby and
- Kildare (abbr.)
- 51. Cry loudly
- 53. Edgar Allan

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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



Finance

Mass leaks 'reveal secret world of tax havens'

LONDON (AFP) - Millions of emails and leaked records from offshore tax havens have exposed the identities of thousands of holders of offshore accounts, including the family of the president of Azerbaijan and French President Francois Hollande's one-time campaign treasurer, the Guardian and Le Monde newspapers reported on Thursday.

The alleged involvement of Jean-Jacques Augier adds to the pressure on Hollande, who is already on the defensive after his former budget minister Jerome Cahuzac was charged in a tax fraud probe.

Britain's Guardian said the information came from a leak of two million documents and emails which mainly concern the British Virgin Islands, but also the Cayman Islands.

The investigation into offshore accounts has been carried out by a variety of media organisations in conjunction with the Washington-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ).

The Guardian says there is no suggestion that any of the individuals named in its report have behaved unlawfully and that the only thing they have in common is that "they have used a jurisdiction which provides them with secrecy", allowing them to avoid tax.

One of Mongolia's most senior politicians, former finance minister Bayartsogt Sangajav, told the ICIJ he was considering resigning after the study claimed he had set up an offshore entity and a secret Swiss bank account which at one point contained more than \$1 million (780,000 euros).

Canada's top class-action lawyer and husband of a senator, as well as 450 other Canadians, were exposed in the leak for hiding money.

Tony Merchant, dubbed by local media Canada's class-action king because of the large settlements he has won for his clients, hid at least Can\$1.7 million in a Cook Islands trust set up in 1998.

The ICIJ's exploration of offshore accounts began when it obtained a hard drive packed with corporate data as a result of Australia's Firepower scandal, a case involving fraud and offshore havens.

The European Commission reacted to the reports by calling on EU states to do more to tackle tax fraud, estimating it costs their cash-strapped governments around one trillion euros a year.

Transparency campaigners Global Witness on Thursday urged the G8 to take the leak as a wake-up call and require the names of company owners to be made public.



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Spain welcomes move to name princess in graft case

MADRID (AFP) - Spanish media on Thursday hailed the decision to name King Juan Carlos's daughter Princess Cristina as a suspect in a corruption case, saying the unprecedented moved showed that nobody was above the

In a ruling issued Wednesday, judge Jose Castro ordered the 47-year-old princess to testify at a court in Palma on the Mediterranean island of Mallorca on April 27 as part of his investigation into the case.

The case, which was opened at the end of 2011, is centred on allegations of embezzlement and influence peddling against Princess Cristina's husband, former Olympic handball player Inaki Urdangarin, and his former business partner Diego Torres.

The pair are suspected of syphoning off money paid by regional governments to stage sports and tourism events to the non-profit Noos Institute, which Urdangarin chaired from 2004 to 2006.

The judge's decision "undermines the monarchy" and "sinks an institution which has been cornered for the past 17 months", wrote centre-right daily El Mundo, adding Crown Prince Felipe's future was now more cloudy.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

F	E	L	С		М	A	L	С		T	A	E
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Cuba economic reforms moving 'at a good pace:' Castro

HAVANA breathing new life into Cuba's decrepit Sovietstyle economy are advancing "at a good pace," President Raul Castro said Thursday, dismissing calls for accelerated change.

Since sweeping economic reforms introduced in 2011 "we can see that we've advanced at a good pace," according to the daily Granma.

The president said that "the magnitude and complexity" of Cuba's problems "do now allow us to resolve them from one day to another," the state newspaper said.

Castro urged Cubans to "resist pressure from those who insist that we should move faster," although he added that the country is currently "at a better moment" to push the economic reforms forward.

Castro, 81, took over from his ailing older brother Fidel in 2006 and has gradually been overhauling island's antiquated Soviet-style economy.

Measures include trimming state payrolls and allowing more types of self-employment, handing over unused land to farmers, and allowing

private ownership of things like homes, cars, mobile phones and computers.

His goal is to liberalize Cuba's economy and encourage more private entrepreneurship, but at the same time maintain a key role for the Cuban state through joint ven-

The reforms are also aimed at trimming back the bloated public sector. The government still controls 90 percent of the economy and is by far the main source of jobs on the island.

Castro said the reform blueprint "has helped us work with more order and discipline."

He called on his ministers to "think and re-think everything we do, periodically check each measure to correct possible mistakes," and urged them and not to stop "despite obstacles that may emerge."

In its 2014 economy plan and budget, the Cuban government hopes to increase exports and cut back on imports.

Desperately needed foreign currency comes from tourism, the sale of medicine, and exports of nickel and sugar.



Luncn Buttet Saturday - Sunday 12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner Monday - Sunday

6:00 - 11:00 p.m

Palm Beach Center - Palm Beach Aruba - Tel: 5860944

Voz y Landia Escolar 2013 revived by a new generation!

23 Elementary Schools on the island will be participating this year

- -Yesterday the Voz -I-Landia committee held a press conference at the main office of SETAR to announce that after eight years the popular school singing contest Voz -I-Landia is back!

The festival can now be enjoyed by a complete new generation, where they can support or participate in it. There are 23 Elementary schools participating. There will be representatives in 2 categories: Group A: children 7 -9 yrs and Group B: Children 10 -13 yrs.

Pre-finals of group A will be on April 21st and pre-finals group B will be on May 5th. Both pre-finals will be at the Cas di Cultura with the big day of the Finals taking place at the Renaissance Convention Center on June 9th.

Both pre-finals and finals will start at 3 p.m.

All songs must be a complete new composition and arrangement and in Papiamento. Also all lyrics must be aimed at children, so everything in a child's world!

The idea is to introduce all these new songs to all schools on the island. Being that this year we are also celebrating the Year of Papiamento" it is perfect timing to bring back this festival. Mu-



sical accompaniment will be in the hands of Reinaldo Suarez, Ivan Quandus, Richard Holmond, Chucho Hoek, led by Amado Rosina.

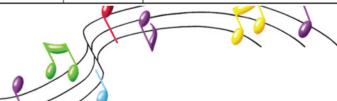
Voz-I-Landia is a foundation which depends on sponsorship, subsidies and human force to organize the festival. Up until now sponsors are: UNOCA, Department of Culture, Setar, Tele Aruba, WEB NV, Aruba Marriott Resort & Stelaris Casino, Magic FM, Aruba Bank, Masyfral, Frasa Trading, Quick Holding, El Paso Bar Restaurant, Caribbean Palm Village, Butterfly Farm, Flora Market, Fantastic Gardens, Emco Productions, Graficas Aruba, Fatima College and Fundacion Desaroyo Educativo Comunitario (F.D.E.C.) but there is still room for more sponsorship to help cover costs.

A team of volunteers are working diligently to make everything smoothly. Team members are: Gemmy de Freitas, Addonsito Croes, Vicky Arens, Raquel Lampe, Maybeline Arends-Croes, Franklin Richardson, George Winterdaal, Raymond Kamperveen and Rachel Kraaijvanger.

Winners of Aruba's Voz-I-Landia Festival are popular singers such as Cezar Olarte, Angelo Figueroa, Gloria Vega, Sylvienne Vrolijk, Jonathan Thiel, Edjean Semeleer, Ramphys Tromp.

The Festival promises to be a huge success, so everyone is invited to come and support

Grupo A	
Mika Escudero	Scol Basico Washington
Silienne Herman	Colegio Laura Wernet-Paskel
Xenon Daal	Maria School
Raizion Sneek	Pius X School
Ciara Ras	Prinses Amalia School
Ruzette D. Dortalina	Colegio Pastoor Kranwinkel
Damon Illes	Scol Primario Kudawecha
Annaïs Thiel	Colegio San Hose
Jyailah Stamper	Colegio Cristo Rey
Chantal Rasmijn	Mon Plaisir Basisschool
Jahmani J. J. Eisden	St. Paulus School
Thaisa Jansen	O.L.V. Fatima College
Evanielle Rincones	Colegio Sagrado Curason
Alizah Moreno-Castro	St. Michael School
Felix Frais	Cacique Macuarima
Josiënne Maduro	Maria Regina School
Mionzanin Paskel	Colegio Ora Ubao
Jaydiene Croes	Colegio Felibe B. Tromp
Daniela Boasman	Colegio Hilario Angelo



	Graciela Herrer
tweets are approved by the	Jesus Werlema
pope although not actually written by him and are sent	Priscilla Quant
from a single computer to	Kimberly Yepes
avoid hacking. Francis' latest tweet on	Kevin Richardso
Thursday reads: "God loves us. We must not be afraid to love	Zhaisky Z. Kock
him." His first tweet a few days	Andrea Nuboer

you to continue to pray for me.' The pope has shown a tradition-breaking style in his first few weeks in office and has said he wants the Church to be closer to ordinary people.

after his election read: "I thank

you from my heart and I ask

The number of followers on the Spanish-language account of Latin America's first pope has risen particularly sharply to 1.6 million, although the Argentinian was still trailing in Portuguese with 188,000 followers.

Pope Francis' online flock doubles on **Twitter**

Following					
4	Papa Franciscus	1.	Follow		
F	Papst Franziskus	1.	У Follow		

VATICAN CITY (AFP) -Pope Francis' online flock has doubled from 2.5 million to 5.0 million Twitter followers in just seven weeks -- nearly half the time it took his predecessor Benedict XVI to build up his following.

The account @pontifex -the word "pope" in Latin -- has tweets in nine languages including English, Spanish, Arabic and Latin. They are snippets of religious instruction rather than insights into the pontiff's daily life.

The number on all nine accounts put together went over five million for the first time on

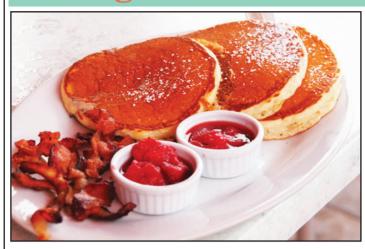
The comments on the tweets left by followers are often irreverent and chatty, with one user asking the pope on Thursday: "How you settling in?"

Benedict launched the account on December 12 after encouraging Catholic Church leaders to use social media to reach a wider and more youthful audience.

The Vatican has said the

Grupo B	
Femke Hoek	Scol Basico Washington
Mylaine Boekhoudt	Colegio Laura Wernet-Paskel
Jayleen Croes	Maria School
Graciela Herrera	Pius X School
Jesus Werleman	Prinses Amalia School
Priscilla Quant	Sint Annaschool
Kimberly Yepes	Scol Primario Kudawecha
Kevin Richardson	Colegio San Hose
Zhaisky Z. Kock	St. Paulus School
Andrea Nuboer	Mon Plaisir Basisschool
Ferghall Vlaun	O.L.V. Fatima College
Zaina Falconi	Colegio Sagrado Curason
Gerline Heyliger	St. Michael School
Ashley Koolman	Cacique Macuarima
Kehdy Griffith	Colegio St. Teresita
Shannon Bueno	Reina Beatrix School
Melony E. Boekhoudt	Emmaschool
Julie Farro	Colegio Ora Ubao
Aisha Romero	Colegio Felibe B. Tromp
Dylan Girigorius	Colegio Hilario Angelo

5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy,

made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.49, (\$5.48, with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda,



Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of

fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English waywith vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by



the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community

of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas, The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facili-

ties such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the

least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management depart ment. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www. goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.



Football: Mixed night for English trio in Europa League

PARIS (AFP) - It was a mixed night for England's trio of contenders in the Europa League on Thursday, with Chelsea winning their quarter-final first leg while Tottenham Hotspur were held to a draw and Newcastle United lost in Portugal.

Chelsea are in a strong position at the halfway stage in their tie against Russian side Rubin Kazan after winning the first leg 3-1 at Stamford Bridge, but Tottenham have work to do following a 2-2



draw with Basel at White Hart Lane.

Tottenham suffered a potentially serious setback as Gareth Bale was stretchered off with an ankle injury in the final moments of Thursday's 2-2 draw against FC Basel.

Newcastle are very much up against it following a 3-1 defeat to Benfica in Lisbon, while Fenerbahce beat Lazio 1-0 in Istanbul in the night's other game.

Newcastle got off to a terrific start at the Estadio da Luz, taking the lead in the 12th minute when Papiss Cisse turned in a Moussa Sissoko cross, and they almost netted again soon after, Cisse's shot deflecting off Ezequiel Garay and hitting the post.

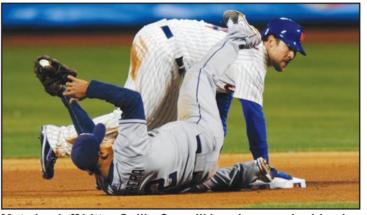
Newcastle coach Alan Pardew said qualifying would now be a very tough call.

BRASILIA (AFP) - Players from Argentine club Arsenal de Sarandi returned home on Thursday after spending part of the night in cells following a bizarre confrontation with Brazilian police at the end of a Libertadores Cup match. Arsenal, a modest club from the Buenos Aires suburbs, were in the Brazilian city of Belo Horizonte for a Libertadores Cup Group 3 match against Atletico Mineiro. At the end of Wednes-



day's match, which Arsenal lost 5-2, various Argentine players confronted military police on the pitch, before throwing seats and other pieces of furniture in the dressing room, according to reports in the Brazilian sporting press. The incident is bad publicity for Brazil ahead of this year's Confederations Cup and next year's World Cup, with Belo Horizonte, one of the country's largest cities, a host venue in both competitions.

Padres down Mets, avoid sweep



Mets leadoff hitter Collin Cowgill breaks up a double play

NEW YORK, After the Mets tied a team record with 19 runs in the first two games of a season, San Diego starter Eric Stults and five relievers quieted them in a 2-1 loss at Citi Field.

Stults (1-0) allowed three hits and two walks in five innings, striking out seven. The Padres held the Mets scoreless until catcher John Buck belted his second homer of the sea-

son, leading off the bottom of the ninth against closer Huston Street.

However, Street recovered and retired the next three hitters for his first save of the season, striking out Mike Baxter to end

Dillon Gee (0-1) went 6 1/3 innings, allowing three hits and one run. He walked three and fanned four.

Sport

Armstrong bid for swim comeback thwarted

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Disgraced US cyclist Lance Armstrong has been barred from entering a swim race in Texas following objections from the sport's global governing body, organizers confirmed yesterday.

Armstrong, 41, who was stripped of his seven Tour de France wins and banned for life before later confessing to drug-taking throughout his career, had hoped to compete in a US Masters Swimming event in Austin this weekend.

However Armstrong's participation was swiftly opposed by swimming's global governing body FINA, who said in a statement the cyclist should be barred from competing under anti-doping regulations.

USMS said while Armstrong was a member of the organization, FINA and US Aquatic Sports officials had concluded that Armstrong's lifetime ban prevented him from competing in sanctioned meetings, even minor ones such as the Masters South Central Zone Swimming Championships which will be contested in a non-Olympic 25-yard pool in Austin.

USMS executive director Rob Butcher earlier told The New York Times that he had informed Armstrong's agent the disgraced cyclist would not be allowed to compete and Armstrong withdrew his entry.

Armstrong finally made a belated admission of doping, after many denials, in a televised interview with Oprah Winfrey in January, in which he said he used a combination of blood-doping transfusions, blood-boosting EPO and testosterone throughout his career.





NBA: Celtics beat Pistons to seal playoff berth, Clippers beat Suns for 50th win of season

BOSTON (AFP) - Jeff Green's game-high 34 points included a key three-pointer that helped Boston hold on for a 98-93 victory over the Detroit that secured the Celtics' NBA playoff berth.

Green made 13-of-19 shots from the field, including three three-pointers.

The victory, coupled with the Philadelphia 76ers' 88-83 loss to Charlotte, ensured the Celtics will be in the post-season for the sixth straight year.

Seven of the eight Eastern Conference playoff teams have now been determined, with the reigning champion

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Miami Heat leading the way.

Milwaukee remain in eighth position, six games in front of Philadelphia for the final spot despite falling 107-98 to the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday.

While DeAndre Jordan in Los Angeles scored 20 points

and grabbed 12 rebounds Wednesday to lead the Los Angeles Clippers to their 50th win of the NBA season, a 126-101 triumph over the Phoenix Suns.

Chris Paul added 15 points, 12 assists and four steals for the Clippers, who snapped a three-game skid to finally reach 50 wins for the first time in franchise history.

The club's previous highest win total in a season was 49, when they were the Buffalo Braves in the 1974-75 campaign.

Six Clippers players scored in double figures, but that did not include star Blake

Griffin, who scored just nine points on 4-of-7 shooting.

The Clippers can clinch their first Pacific Division title with a win over their crosstown rivals the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday -- or if the Golden State Warriors lose at Phoenix on today...



Tennis: Djokovic leads Serbia against USA



BOISE (AFP) - World No. 1 Novak Djokovic, leading Serbia's Davis Cup quarter-final charge against the United States, will take on John Isner in the opening singles match of their World Group tie today.

Djokovic is one of just two top-10 player, along with France's Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who will be competing in the Davis Cup World Group quarter-finals this weekend.

In the absence of Serbian number two Janko Tipsarevic, enduring a dry spell on the ATP tour, world No. 44 Viktor Troicki will join Djokovic playing singles for Serbia, who lifted the trophy in the nations

tennis competition in 2010.

Troicki will take on Sam Querrey today second singles in Boise, the capital of Idaho which is located at an altitude of 800m.

In Saturday's doubles, Bob and Mike Bryan will take on Nenad Zimonjic andIlija Bozoljac, while in Sunday's reverse singles in the best-of-five match tie Querrey will take on Djokovic and Isner will face Troicki.

USA v Serbia Friday (19:30 GMT) John Isner (USA) v Novak Djokovic (SRB) Sam Querrey (USA) v Viktor Troicki (SRB)

MLB Standings National League American League W L Pct GB W L Pct GB East **BOSTON** 02 -- 1.00 **WASHINGTON** 02 -- 1.00 02 -- 1.00 01 01 .500 1.0 **BALTIMORE ATLANTA** 02 -- 1.00 2.0 TAMPA 01 01 .500 1.0 NY METS TORONTO -- 02 .000 2.0 -- 02 .000 2.0 MIAMI -- 02 .000 2.0 YANKEES PHILADELPHIA -- 02 .000 2.0 Central W L Pct GB W L Pct GB 02 -- 1.00 --02 -- 1.00 --02 01 .667 CLEVELAND CINCINNATI CHICAGO CHICAGO 02 01 .667 01 01 .500 1.0 **ST. LOUIS** 01 02 .333 1.0 MINNESOTA 01 01 .500 1.0 **PITTSBURG** DETROIT -- 02 .000 2.0 **MILWAUKEE** -- 02 .333 1.0 **KANSAS** W L Pct GB West W L Pct GB 02 01 .667 --TEXAS COLORADOLA 02 01 .667 **SEATTLE** LA ANGELES 01 02 .333 1.0 SAN FRANCISCO 02 01 .667 02 01 .667 --**ARIZONA** 02 01 .333 --01 02 333 1.0 HOUSTON 01 02 .333 1.0 DODGERS 01 02 .333 1.0 OAKLAND SAN DIEGO -- 02 .000 1.5 **x**-Clinched Playoff Spot; **y**-Division Champ

The Dutch Caribbean Golf Association starts with the Junior Mini Tour

--On the 24rd of March 2013 the Dutch Caribbean Golf Association started with the Junior Mini Tour at Tierra Del Sol.

JUNIOR MINI TOUR

The Dutch Caribbean Golf Association Junior Mini Tour is the first of a number of Junior Golf events that will take place on Aruba, Curacao and ST Maarten in March, April and May 2013.

The Junior Mini Tour Program is part of the Committed to Youth Program and is developed for all ages and therefore offers junior golfers, both boys and girls the opportunity to play competitions on Aruba, Curacao and ST Maarten.

The Junior Mini Tour has 3 age categories 0-12, 13-14, and 15-17 and 3 formats that are aimed to enable the junior participants to complete with each other on their level in International tournament formats (Sramble, Stableford, Strokeplay).

During the weekend there were two junior tournaments in the Dutch Caribbean region one at Old Quarry Golf Resort in Curacao and one at Tierra Del Sol Golf & Country Club in Aruba, with in Curacao 25 and in Aruba 11 junior participants.

The Junior Mini Tour will be played on a different Golf course in the Dutch Caribbean each month enabling the junior players to learn to play the different courses, and get more acquainted with their golfing friends in the Dutch Caribbean.

The winners of the Junior Mini Tour at Tierra Del Sol where Lucas and Liam Croes (0-12) VJ Luidens, (13-14) Liam van Ramshorst (15-17)

The participants of the Junior Mini Tour can also take part in the RBC Junior Open Championship.

RBC JUNIOR OPEN

The Dutch Caribbean Golf Association and RBC are organizing the 1st RBC Junior Open Golf Tournament. The Junior Open will take place in June 29 and 30th of June at Tierra Del Sol. The RBC Junior Open is open for registration to both local as International teams. RBC is the official title sponsor of the RBC Junior Open.

DUTCH CARIBBEAN GOLF ASSOCIATION – GROW THE GAME.

Dutch Caribbean Golf Association is the governing









body of golf in the Dutch Caribbean, representing 7 Golf Courses across the region. Recognized by the Netherlands Golf Federation (NGF) for golf in this region, Dutch Caribbean Golf Associations' mission is to grow participation, excellence and passion in the sport while upholding the integrity and traditions of the game.



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Funchi , Pan Bati, etc.
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Featuring: Caha di Orgel
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